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stantiate their claim that such a law will shorten the time and lessen the expense of trials and will produce a class of jurors much superior to the average panel. The opponents of the bill make the claim that the remedy lies not in a change of laws but in a change in the conduct of the trial lawyers, trial judges, and citizens summoned to sit as jurors. They call attention to the fact that the proposed bill does not prevent full and complete examinations of veniremen as to their fitness to act as jurors, and that trial lawyers might extend such examinations as long as under the present conditions.

Frank W. Lucas.

Labor of Women and Children. During the closing days of the last session, congress appropriated \$150,000 for an investigation into the industrial, social, moral, educational and physical conditions of woman and child workers in the United States. Special attention is to be given in this investigation to hours of labor, terms of employment, health, illiteracy, sanitary and other conditions surrounding their occupation, as well as the means employed for the protection of their health, person, and morals. The inquiry will be conducted under the supervision of the commissioner of labor.

Local Option. The crop of liquor bills for the current legislative sessions is as usual very large, affecting nearly every phase of the traffic in liquors. The States of Illinois, Colorado, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and South Carolina have considered, or are considering, general local option, and both Colorado and South Carolina have adopted it; the latter abandoning the experiment of the State dispensary. Residence district option modeled on the Ohio law, or ward option on the Indiana plan, is the chief aim of the anti-saloon elements in those States which already have township or county local option. New York is having a repetition of the struggle of last year for residence district or city ward option. Wisconsin, New Jersey and Illinois legislatures have each before them bills for residence district option, while bills prohibiting sale within certain districts near schools, churches and camps are pending in several States.

JOHN A. LAPP.

Mortgage Taxation. The question of mortgage taxation has caused and is still causing economists, the legislatures and the courts as well as the borrowers and lenders of money a vast amount of diffi-